Dear Jim,

3/15/84

There is something about Henry Hurt and his book that I gave no thought to until a short time ago, after 6 and before 7, Sissi, his researcher, phoned me to determine whether there had been identification of an allegedly Latin-looking man in the Pizzo picture, from WDSU's film, in 21H. I didn't tell her and it presented no problem, but I was eating supper. I stopped, got the picture and discussed it with the poor, overworked girl, who was still there when I phoned back close to 7.

As Henry weaves his theories he made some reference to the second assistant LHO had when he gave out literature at the ITM. I believe I questioned it and pointed out that the one generally regarded as the Latin helper is in fact a Japanese importer named Ehara. So I guess her checking was prompted by his desparate efforts to salvage that particular nuttiness.

I thought while finishing eating and then checked my file on this, titled "Third Man." I found an FBI report with the description of this other person it attributed to Steele, phoned her, read it to her, and am sending her a copy in the morning. It cannot be anyone in those Pizzo pictures. I offered them access to the motion picture film, which I have. But they'll not have time now.

Akk of this made me wonder, why did not Henry approach me early on, while he was still planning his book, not after he was into the writing. Two possibilities neither of which excludes the other occurred immediate: Henry that far back had a political line and preconcepetion he believed I'd not go for and others poisoned him with the usual propaganda. Most like others who have found their nuttiness did not stand examination or those with their own precoonceptions they were anxious for him to adopt.

I'd never stopped to think of this before, but it is obvious that the most elemental research has to disclose me and the volume alone of the work I've done and published. Therefore, absent some prejudice or other block, it would seem that he'd have been in touch with me very early.

I do not know the answers, butI'll see a few odd qiestions.

I've spent quite an bit of time on this now but if he'd been in touch early and with some indication of where he was going, the cost in time alone to him and RD and the time in problems would have been much reduced.

There is just something about this that doesn't seem to fit, to be natural for such experienced people and while I may imagine it or what I conjecture above may not have relevance, I'm inclined to think that one or both of the above factors and elements are at work.

Hastily -Orioles' game in minutes!